

4. NEEDS ANALYSIS

This chapter reviews the relationship between bicycle use, commute patterns, demographics, and land use in the City of Fremont. It identifies major activity centers and public facilities where bicyclists may be destined, along with the needs of recreational and commuter bicyclists. A review of the needs of each bicycle user group will help guide the type and routing of the bikeway system.

One of the primary reasons for creating the Bicycle Master Plan is to maximize the number of bicycle commuters in order to help achieve transportation goals such as minimizing traffic congestion and air pollution. In order to set the framework for these benefits, local and national statistics are used as a basis for determining the benefits of an improved and expanded bikeway network for Fremont. The national and local statistics are based on the 2000 U.S. Census.

4.1. LAND USE AND DEMAND

The concept of “demand” for bicycle facilities can be difficult to comprehend. Unlike automobile use, where historical trip generation studies and traffic counts for different types of land uses permits an estimate of future “demand” for travel, bicycle trip generation methods are less advanced and standardized in the United States. Land use patterns can help predict demand and are important to bikeway planning because changes in land use (and particularly employment areas) will affect average commute distance, which in turn affects the attractiveness of bicycling as a commute mode. The Fremont bikeway network will connect the neighborhoods where people live to the places they work, shop, recreate, or go to school. An emphasis will be placed on regional bikeway and transit connections centered around the major activity centers in Fremont, including:

- Major employment centers
- Civic buildings such as libraries
- Schools
- District centers
- Fremont BART station
- Centerville Amtrak/ACE Train Station
- Neighborhood parks and regional recreational areas

4.2. COMMUTE PATTERNS

A central focus of presenting commute information is to identify the current “mode split” of people that live and work in Fremont. Mode split refers to the choice of transportation a person selects to move to destinations, be it walking, bicycling,

taking a bus, or driving. One major objective of any bicycle facility improvement is to increase the “split” or percentage of people who choose to bike rather than drive or be driven. Every saved vehicle trip or vehicle mile represents quantifiable reductions in air pollution and can help in lessening traffic congestion.

Journey to work and travel time to work data were obtained from the 2000 US Census for Fremont, Alameda County, California, and the United States. Journey to work data are shown in **Table 4-1**.

Table 4-1
Journey to Work Data

Mode	United States	California	Alameda County	Fremont
Bicycle	0.4%	0.8%	1.2%	0.6%
Drove Alone	75.7%	71.8%	66.4%	77.4%
Carpool	12.2%	14.6%	13.8%	12.4%
Public Transit	4.7%	5.1%	10.6%	5.0%
Walked	2.9%	2.9%	3.2%	1.1%
Other	4.1%	4.8%	2.5%	1.4%

Source: U.S. Census 2000

As shown, about 0.6% of all employed Fremont residents commute primarily by bicycle, which is very similar to the national average of 0.4%, the state average of .8% and about half of the Alameda County average. This figure indicates that Fremont has an average mode split for commuting purposes. It should be noted that the Census data do not give an indication of the number of people who bicycle for recreation or for utilitarian purposes, such as shopping.

Travel time to work is shown in **Table 4-2**. Travel time is important because it can give an indication of the number of potential new bicycle commuters.

It has been suggested that a reasonable commute time, regardless of mode, is about 30 minutes. Assuming that travel occurs primarily on local roads during peak commute periods, a motor vehicle commute time of 15 minutes or less would be equivalent to about a 30 minute bicycle commute on flat terrain. In other words, converting an under-15 minute motor vehicle commute trip to a bicycle commute trips would still result in a reasonable 30 minute commute time. As shown in Table 4-2, about 20% of Fremont residents have a commute time of 15 minutes or less (most of these trips are drive alone, based on the city’s mode split data). While some of these people may be taking transit or walking, based on the fact that 77% of all Fremont residents drive alone to work, it can be assumed that the majority of these short-distance commuters are driving alone to work. Given these data, there is a substantial opportunity to capture some of the short distance (less than 15 minute) motor vehicle commute trips and convert them to bicycle commute trips.

Table 4-2
Travel Time to Work Data

	United States	California	Alameda County	Fremont
Less than 15 minutes	29.4%	25.3%	21%	20%
15 to 29 minutes	36.1%	35.4%	32%	28%
30 to 44 minutes	19.1%	20.9%	22%	25%
45 to 59 minutes	7.4%	8.2%	11%	14%
60 minutes or more	8.0%	10.1%	14%	13%

Source: Census 2000

4.3. TRIP REDUCTION AND POTENTIAL AIR QUALITY BENEFITS

Based on available census data on mode split, a rough projection of future bicycle ridership in Fremont along with the trip reduction and air quality benefits can be made. While these projections are only ambitious estimates, they are important to building a case for investing in bicycle facilities and programs over time. For example, a traffic model is used to project future roadway improvements over time based on a straight-line assumption about auto use, fuel price, and other factors. The projection on bicycle use and benefits differs only in that it forecasts a minor change in modal choice – not travel behavior – based on a combination of empirical and theoretical data. Research conducted throughout the U.S. by the U.S. Department of Transportation shows a definitive link between bicycle use and (a) age and (b) the miles of bicycle facilities provided. It is possible to derive a causal relationship from this information.

Fremont lies within the San Francisco Bay Area Basin which is regulated by the Bay Area Air Quality Management District (BAAQMD). The city is within the South Central Bay District of the Basin. According to the California Air Resources Board, the air quality in the San Francisco Bay Area Basin exceeds the Federal health-based standards for ground-level ozone 35 to 40 days per year, and exceeds the more stringent California standards for ozone more than 100 days per year. The Basin exceeds the Federal standards for airborne particles (PM10) less than five times annually, and exceeds the more stringent California standards for PM10 an average of 90 to 100 days per year. Currently, the Basin is classified as non-attainment for the Federal ground-level ozone and PM10 standards. The Basin is classified as severe non-attainment for the California ozone standard and non-attainment for the California PM10 standard.

According to the BAAQMD, motor vehicles are responsible for approximately 75 percent of the smog in the Bay Area. Reducing vehicle miles traveled (VMTs) is a key goal of the BAAQMD, and fully implementing Fremont's bicycle network will help achieve this goal by providing residents safe and functional ways to get to work, school, or shopping without using a motor vehicle. The current number of daily bicycle commuters in Fremont is estimated to be 3,149 riders, making a total of 6,298 daily trips and saving an estimated 14,823 VMTs per weekday. With implementation of the Bicycle Master Plan network and programs by 2020, it is

estimated that bicycle commuting could increase to 8,777 daily bicycle riders making 17,554 daily trips and saving an approximately 41,313 VMTs per weekday.

Table 4-3 quantifies the estimated reduction in VMTs in Fremont following implementation of the bicycle network, and the estimated reduction in air pollutants based on the best available local and national data. Under these estimates, the proposed bikeway system in Fremont would increase the bicycle mode share of trips from 0.55 percent in 2000 (U.S. Census) to over 1.53 percent by 2020. This would result in an estimated decrease of 760 lbs/day of PM10, 2,999 lbs/day of ROG, and 2,060 lbs/day of NOX.

4.4. BICYCLE SAFETY AND ACCIDENT ANALYSIS

4.4.1. Perceptions of Safety

Safety is a major concern of both existing and potential bicyclists. For those who ride, safety is typically an on-going concern or even a distraction. For those who don't ride, it is one of the most compelling reasons not to ride. In discussing bicycle safety, it is important to separate out perceived dangers versus actual safety hazards.

Bicycle riding on-street is commonly perceived as unsafe because of the exposure of a lightweight, two-wheeled vehicle to heavier and faster moving automobiles, trucks and buses. Actual collision statistics, however, show that bicyclists face only a marginally higher degree of sustaining an injury than a motorist based on numbers of users and miles traveled. Death rates are essentially the same with bicyclists as with motorists. Bicycle-vehicle collisions are much less likely to happen than bicycle-bicycle, bicycle-pedestrian, or collisions caused by physical conditions. The majority of reported bicycle collisions show the bicyclist to be at fault; (due to not obeying basic traffic laws; these often involve younger bicyclists riding on the wrong side of the road or being hit broadside by a vehicle at an intersection or driveway.)

4.4.2. Collision Data

Data for reported bicycle collisions were collected for the calendar years 2000 to 2003 in Fremont, and are presented in **Table 4-4**.

Table 4-3
Bicycle Commute and Air Quality Projections

Current Commuting Statistics		Source
Fremont Population	203,413	2000 US Census
Number of Employed Persons	100,215	2000 US Census
Number of Bicycle-to-Work Commuters	556	2000 US Census
Bicycle-to-Work Mode Share	0.6%	Calculated from above
School Children Grades K-8	26,876	2000 US Census, population ages 6-14
Estimated School Bicycle Commuters	672	Calculated based on existing estimates of biking to school
Number of College Students	15,476	2000 US Census
Estimated College Bicycle Commuters	309	2000 US Census
Average Weekday BART Ridership	5,867	BART, boardings at BART station
Number of Daily Bike-BART Users	39	Estimate based on California TOD database Fremont BART access
Utilitarian Bicycle Trips	1,573	Calculated from above on existing estimates
Existing Bicycle Commuters		
Total Number of Bicycle Commuters	3,149	Total of bike-to-work, transit, school, college and utilitarian bicycle trips. Does not include recreation.
Total Daily Bicycle Trips	6,298	Total bicycle commuters \times 2 (for round trips)
Reduced Vehicle Trips per Weekday	4,329	Assumes 73% of bicycle trips replace vehicle trips for adults/college students and 53% for school children
Reduced Vehicle Miles per Weekday	14,823	Assumes average round trip travel length of 8 miles for adults/college students and 1 mile for schoolchildren
Future Bicycle Commuters		
Number of Future Daily Bicycle Commuters	8,777	Estimated using increase to 279% of baseline from 2000 Los Angeles County MTA study
Future Bicycle-to-Work Mode Share	1.53%	Calculated from above
Future Total Daily Bicycle Trips	17,554	Calculated from above
Future Reduced Vehicle Trips per Weekday	12,065	Calculated from above
Future Reduced Vehicle Miles per Weekday	41,313	Calculated from above
Future Reduced Vehicle Miles per Year	1,116,547	180 days for students, and 256 days for employed persons
Future Air Quality Benefits		
Reduced PM10* (tons/weekday)	760	(.0184 tons per reduced mile)
Reduced NOX* (tons/weekday)	2,060	(.04988 tons per reduced mile)
Reduced ROG* (tons/weekday)	2,999	(.0726 tons per reduced mile)
Reduced PM10 (tons/year)	20,544	(.0184 tons per reduced mile)
Reduced NOX (tons/year)	55,693	(.04988 tons per reduced mile)
Reduced ROG (tons/year)	81,061	(.0726 tons per reduced mile)

Sources as noted in the table.

*PM10 = particulate matter, NOX = nitrogen oxides, ROG = reactive organic gases.

Table 4-4
Summary of Reported Bicycle Collisions in Fremont, 2000-2004

Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
Central Avenue	Farwell Drive	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Central Avenue	Logan Drive	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Chiltern Drive	Driscoll Road	Other Hazard	Bicycle	2000
Commerce Drive	Mimosa Terrace	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Crandalwood Drive	Deep Creek Road	N/A	Bicycle	2000
Davis	Margery Drive	Stop Sign/Signal	Bicycle	2000
Davis	Stevenson Boulevard	Right of Way Automobile	Bicycle	2000
Deep Creek Road	Paseo Padre Parkway	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Dondero Way	Route 84	Pedestrian Violation	Bicycle	2000
Dow Court	Pickering Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Eggers Drive	Fremont Boulevard	Right of Way Auto	Bicycle	2000
Ends	Coit Avenue	Impromptu Turn	Bicycle	2000
Fortner	Lippert Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Bidwell Drive	Impromptu Turn	Driver	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Blacow Road	Driver under the influence of alcohol and drugs	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Central Avenue	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Cusing Parkway	Impromptu Turn	Driver	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Decoto Road	Right of Way Auto	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Decoto Road	N/A	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Margery Drive	N/A	N/A	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Montrose Avenue	Wrong Side	N/A	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Mowry Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Mowry Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Nicolet Drive	Wrong Side	N/A	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Stevenson Boulevard	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Thornton Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Fremont Boulevard	Walnut Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Grimmer Boulevard	Auto mall Parkway	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000

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Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
Grimmer Boulevard	Auto Mall Parkway Driveway	Lights	Bicycle	2000
Grimmer Boulevard	Auto Mall Parkway	Not Driver	N/A	2000
Grimmer Boulevard	Bay	N/A	N/A	2000
Grimmer Boulevard	Bay	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2000
Grimmer Boulevard	Blacow Road	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2000
Grimmer Boulevard	Davis	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Grimmer Boulevard	Irvington Boulevard	Other Hazard	Driver	2000
Hardwood	Applewood	Right of Way Auto	Bicycle	2000
Isherwood Drive	Paseo Padre Parkway	Impromptu turn	Bicycle	2000
Lake Head Drive	Lake Ontario Drive	Other hazard	Bicycle	2000
Leslie	Bidwell Drive	Right of Way Auto	Bicycle	2000
Linda Drive	Niles Boulevard	Other Hazard	N/A	2000
Logan Driver	Eggers Drive	Other Hazard	Bicycle	2000
Mowry Road	Lark Avenue	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2000
Mission View Drive	Leslie	Other Hazard	Drive	2000
Montevideo Court	Montevideo Circle	Other Hazard	Bicycle	2000
Mowry Avenue	Parkside Drive	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2000
Mowry Avenue	Route 880 Northbound on the off-ramp	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2000
Mowry Avenue	Route 880 Northbound on the off-ramp	Stop Sign/Signal	N/A	2000
Mowry Avenue	State	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Mowry Avenue	Waterside Circle	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Parkhurst Drive	Walnut Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Paseo Padre Parkway	Capitol	Improper Driving	Bicycle	2000
Paseo Padre Parkway	Fitzgerald	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Paseo Padre Parkway	Route 84	Stop Sign/Signal	Bicycle	2000
Paseo Padre Parkway	Parkmont Drive	Right of Way Auto	Bicycle	2000
Pawnee Drive	Grimmer Boulevard	N/A	Bicycle	2000
Peralta Boulevard	Cambridge Court	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Peralata Boulevard	Redwood Terrace	Improper Passing	Driver	2000
Robin	Blacow Road	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2000
RT 880 NB	Mowry Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000

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Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
offramp				
Starr	Mission Boulevard	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2000
Stevenson Boulevard	Blacow Road	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Stevenson Boulevard	Route 880 NB off- ramp	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Stevenson Boulevard	Sundale Drive	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Thornton Avenue	Dusterberry Way	Other Hazard	Driver	2000
Walnut Avenue	Cherry Lane	Driver under the influence of drugs and alcohol	Bicycle	2000
Walnut Avenue	Lakefront Court	Other Hazard	Bicycle	2000
Warm Springs Boulevard	Mayten Way	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2000
Washington Boulevard	Roberts Avenue	Driver under the influence of drugs and alcohol	Bicycle	2000
Wyndham Drive	Faraday Court	Unsafe speed	Bicycle	2000
Andante	Butano Park Drive	Unsafe speed	Bicycle	2001
Auto Mall Parkway	Boyce Road	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Auto Mall Parkway	Route 880 B Off/R	Lane Change	Driver	2001
Blackstone Drive	Gordon Place	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Blacow Road	Grimmer Boulevard	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2001
Blacow Road	Mattos Court	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Blacow Road	Roselle CM	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Blacow Road	Thornton Avenue	Stop Sign/Signal	Bicycle	2001
Capitol Avenue	State	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Capitol Avenue	State	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2001
Carol Avenue	Chapel Way	N/A	N/A	2001
Chapel Way	Fremont Boulevard	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Coronado Drive	Escala Terrace	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Davenport	Grimmer	Right of Way	Bicycle	2001
Decoto Road	Fremont Boulevard	Stop Sign/Signal	Bicycle	2001
Deep Creek Road	Frederick Lane	Stop Sign/Signal	Bicycle	2001
Driscoll Road	Harrington	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Eggers Drive	Corrigan	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2001
Eggers Drive	Paseo Padre Parkway	Improper Passing	Bicycle	2001
Enterprise	Grimmer Boulevard	Lights	Bicycle	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Bidwell Drive	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Clough Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Landing Parkway	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2001

Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
Fremont Boulevard	Peralta	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Peralta	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Peralta	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Stevenson Boulevard	N/A	Driver	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Walnut Avenue	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Grimmer Boulevard	Blacow Road	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Hancock Drive	Wolcott Drive	Stop Sign/Signal	Bicycle	2001
Harrisburg Avenue	Conovan Lane	N/A	N/A	2001
Liberty	Stevenson Boulevard	Wrong Side	N/A	2001
Martha Avenue	Paseo Parkway	Right of Way Auto	Bicycle	2001
Mission Boulevard	Mowry Avenue	Improper Passing	Driver	2001
Mission Boulevard	Niles Canyon	Improper Turn	Bicycle	2001
Mission Boulevard	Williams Court	Unsafe Speed	Driver	2001
Morrison Canyon Road	Mission Boulevard	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2001
Mowry Avenue	Fremont Boulevard	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Mowry Avenue	Fremont Boulevard	Starting/Backing up	Driver	2001
Mowry Avenue	Paseo Padre Parkway	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2001
Mowry Avenue	I-880 NBOFF/R	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Mowry Avenue	I-880 NBOFF/R	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Osgood Road	Grimmer	Impromptu Turn	Bicycle	2001
Osgood	Seldon Court	Other hazard	Driver	2001
Paseo Padre Parkway	Peralta Boulevard	Stop Sign/Signal	Bicycle	2001
Paseo Padre Parkway	Riverwalk Drive	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Paseo Padre Parkway	Stevenson Boulevard	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Paseo Padre Parkway	Thornton Avenue	Other Side	Bicycle	2001
Peralta Boulevard	Shinn	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
I-880	Auto Mall Parkway	Other Hazards	Bicycle	2001
I-880	Stevenson Boulevard	Other Hazards	Driver	2001
Stevenson Boulevard	Besco Drive	Right of Way Auto	Driver	2001
Stevenson Boulevard	Besco Drive	N/A	N/A	2001
Stevenson Boulevard	Lindsay McDermott	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001
Stevenson	Stevenson	Wrong Side	Bicycle	2001

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Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
Boulevard	Common			
Stonebridge Drive	Terrace Drive	Right of Way Auto	Bicycle	2001
Warm Springs Boulevard	Tonopah Drive	Right of Way	Driver	2001
Fremont Boulevard	Peralta Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Blacow Road	Royal Palm Drive	Auto Right of Way Violation	Driver	2002
Blacow Road	Omar Street	Traffic Signals and Signs	Driver	2002
Peralta Boulevard	Parish Avenue	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Stevenson Boulevard	Davis Street	Other Hazardous Movement	Bicycle	2002
Grimmer Boulevard	High Street	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2002
Grand Lake Drive	Lake Barlee Lane	Improper Turning	Bicycle	2002
Beard Road	Milton Street	Other Hazardous Movement	Bicycle	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Doane Street	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2002
Driscoll Road	Chiltern Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Martha Avenue	Paseo Padre Parkway	Auto Right of Way Violation	Driver	2002
Bay Street	Grimmer Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Stevenson Boulevard	Besco Drive	Pedestrian Right of Way Violation	Pedestrian	2002
Stevenson Boulevard	Civic Center Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
High Street	Grimmer Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Warm Springs Boulevard	Warren Avenue	Pedestrian Violation	Bicycle	2002
Eugene Street	Citrus Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Peralta Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Mowry Avenue	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Stevenson Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Stevenson Boulevard	Fremont Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Gallaudet Drive	Stevenson Boulevard	Auto Right of Way	Bicycle	2002
Central Avenue	Centralmont Place	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2002
Peralta Boulevard	Maple Street	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Newport Drive	Independence Road	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2002
Paseo Padre	Eggers Drive	Wrong Side of	Bicycle	2002

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Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
Parkway		Road		
Mowry Avenue	Blacow Road	Improper Turning	Driver	2002
Decolo Road	Fremont Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Paseo Padre Parkway	Mowry Avenue	Driving Under Influence	Bicycle	2002
Liberty Street	Beacon Avenue	Auto Right of Way Violation	Driver	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Walnut Avenue	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2002
Niles Boulevard	Linda Drive	Improper Passing	Driver	2002
Gallegos Avenue	Washington Common	Auto R/W violation	Driver	2002
Blanchard Street	Bullard Street	Other Hazardous Movement	Bicycle	2002
Mowry Avenue	Fremont Boulevard	Traffic Signals and Signs	Bicycle	2002
Stevenson Boulevard	Blacow Road	Traffic Signals and Signs	Bicycle	2002
Fremont Boulevard	I-880 North	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Mission Boulevard	Warm Springs Boulevard	Ped R/W Violation	Pedestrian	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Staneley Avenue	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Eggers Drive	Logan Drive	Traffic Signals and Signs	Bicycle	2002
Decoto Road	Brookmill Drive	Improper Turning	Bicycle	2002
Rancho Arroyo Parkway	Riviera Drive	Auto R/W Violation	Bicycle	2002
Grimmer Boulevard	Bay Street	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Arden Common	Paseo Padre Parkway	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Power Pole 3226	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Mission Boulevard	Rancho Arroyo Parkway	Unsafe Lane Change	Driver	2002
Warm Springs Boulevard	Pontiac Way	Auto Right of Way Violation	Driver	2002
Panton Terrace	Sequoia Terrace	Other Improper Driving	Driver	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Chapel Way	Other hazardous movement	Bicycle	2002
Central Avenue	Dusterberry Way	Improper Turning	Bicycle	2002
Fremont Boulevard	Mattos Drive	Other Hazardous Movement	Bicycle	2002
Paseo Padre Parkway	Sylvester Drive	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2002
Mowry Avenue	Farwell Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Davis Street	Ogden Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Davis Street	Stevenson	Unsafe Starting or	Bicycle	2002

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Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
	Boulevard	Backing		
Fremont Boulevard	Country Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2002
Margery Drive	Davis Street	Auto R/W Violation	Bicycle	2002
Paseo Padre Parkway	Walnut Avenue	Other Hazardous Movement	Bicycle	2003
Stevenson Boulevard	Blacow Road	Auto R/W Violation	Bicycle	2003
Margery Drive	Blewett Street	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	I-880	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Blacow Road	Improper Turning	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Stevenson Boulevard	Auto R/W Violation	Bicycle	2003
Mowry Avenue	Fremont Boulevard	Traffic Signals and Signs	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Nicolet Avenue	Auto R/W	Bicycle	2003
Dolerita Avenue	Las Palmas Avenue	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Farwell Drive	Eggers Drive	Other Hazardous Movement	Bicycle	2003
Boone Drive	Blacow Road	Unsafe Starting or Backing	Bicycle	2003
Mowry Avenue	Argonaut Way	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
I-680	Mission Boulevard	Auto Right of Way Violation	Driver	2003
Rt. 238	Orchard Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Eggers Drive	Glenview Drive	Unsafe Speed	Bicycle	2003
Mowry Avenue	Lexington Street	Auto R/W Violation	Bicycle	2003
Cabrillo Drive	Diaz Drive	Traffic Signals and Sign	Bicycle	2003
Auto Mall Parkway	I-880	Auto R/W violation	Driver	2003
Roberts Avenue	Washington Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Paseo Padre Parkway	Isherwood Way	Unsafe Lane Change	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Eggers Drive	Wrong side of road	Bicycle	2003
Logan Drive	Central Avenue	Traffic Signals	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Thornton Avenue	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Mowry Avenue	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Paseo Padre Parkway	Country Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Stevenson Boulevard	Farwell Drive	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2003

Street 1	Street 2	Primary Collision Factor	Party at Fault	Year
Blacow Road	Sherwood Street	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Delaware Street	Charleston Way	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2003
McDuff Avenue	Masters Court	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Chapel Way	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Paseo Padre Parkway	Kaiser Drive	Other	Bicycle	2003
Warm Springs Boulevard	Warren Avenue	Auto Right of Way Violation	Bicycle	2003
Alvarado Boulevard	Lowry Road	Pedestrian Violation	Pedestrian	2003
County Road	Paseo Padre Parkway	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Argonaut Way	Parkhurst Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Chapel Way	Fremont Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Mowry Avenue	Fremont Boulevard	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Paseo Padre Parkway	Grimmer Boulevard	Traffic Signals and Signs	Bicycle	2003
Camden Street	Eggers Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Crestwood Street	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003
Fremont Boulevard	Sundale Drive	Wrong Side of Road	Bicycle	2003

Source: City of Fremont, August 2004

As shown, there were 245 bicycle-related collisions reported in Fremont from 2000 to 2003. The collision locations are spread throughout Fremont, although certain locations recorded higher than average accident rates. Of the motor vehicle versus pedestrian collisions in Fremont between 2000 and 2003, twenty percent (20%) occurred along Fremont Boulevard. Accidents involving bicycles were also concentrated along Mowry (10%), Paseo Padre (8%) and Grimmer (7%). The 2000-2003 accidents were caused by numerous factors, although thirty six percent (36%) were attributable to bicyclists riding the wrong direction on the street.

The Fremont Police Department enforces all traffic laws, for bicycles and motor vehicles as part of their regular duties. Violations may include bicyclists who break traffic laws, as well as motorists who disobey traffic laws and make the cycling environment more dangerous. The level of enforcement depends on the availability of officers. The Police Department also responds to particular needs and problems as they arise. In addition, an important function of the police department is filing reports for accidents involving bicyclists. The Police Department should continue to keep a record, accessible to Transportation Engineering, on where, when and how collisions between bicyclists and cars and bicyclists and pedestrians occur. For the City's bicycle planning effort, Transportation Engineering should continue to

review and monitor bicycle and pedestrian accident data to improve safety through the bicycle network.

4.5. BICYCLIST NEEDS

The purpose of reviewing the needs of bicyclists is twofold: (a) it is instrumental when planning a system that must serve both commuter and recreational user groups; and (b) it is useful when attempting to quantify future usage and benefits to justify expenditures of resources. According to a nationwide 1991 Lou Harris Poll, it was reported that “...nearly 3 million adults (about one in 60) already commute by bike, and projected the number could rise to 35 million if more bicycle friendly transportation systems existed.” In short, there is a large reservoir of potential bicyclists who do not ride (or ride more often) simply because they do not feel comfortable using the existing street system and/or don’t have appropriate bicycle facilities at their destination.

Key general observations about bicycling needs in Fremont include:

- Bicyclists are typically categorized as experienced or casual riders. The U.S. Department of Transportation identifies thresholds of traffic volumes, speeds, and curb lanes where less experienced bicyclists begin to feel uncomfortable. For example, on an arterial with traffic moving between 30 and 40 miles per hour, less experienced bicyclists prefer bike lanes while more experienced bicyclists can comfortably use streets with wide curb lanes.
- Casual riders include those who feel less comfortable negotiating traffic. Others such as children and the elderly may have difficulty gauging traffic, responding to changing conditions, or moving rapidly enough to clear intersections.
- Casual riders may perceive riding on sidewalks as being a safer alternative than bicycling on-street on major roads, when in fact sidewalk riding is inherently more dangerous due to the fact that most motorists aren’t expecting a bicyclist to emerge from the sidewalk at the many driveways and intersections along a sidewalk segment. Wrong-way sidewalk riding is of particular concern.
- Other attributes of the casual bicyclist include cycling shorter distances than the experienced rider and unfamiliarity with many of the rules of the road.
- The casual bicyclist will benefit from route markers, bike lanes, wider curb lanes, and educational programs. Casual bicyclists may also benefit from marked routes that lead to parks, schools, shopping areas, and other destinations.
- Experienced bicyclists include those who prefer the most direct, through route between origin and destination, and a preference for riding within or near the travel lanes. Experienced bicyclists negotiate streets in much the same manner as motor vehicles, merging across traffic to make left turns, and avoiding bike lanes and shoulders that contain gravel and glass. The experienced bicyclist will benefit from wider curb lanes (so that vehicles do

not have to change lanes to pass) and loop detectors at signals. The experienced bicyclist who is primarily interested in exercise will benefit from loop routes that lead back to the point of origin.

- Bicycles themselves range in cost from about \$200 to over \$2,000 for adult models. The most popular bicycle types today are the hybrid or mountain bike. These relatively lightweight bicycles feature wider knobby tires that can handle both on-road and off-road conditions, from 10 to 27 gears, and upright handlebars. Advanced versions have features such as front and rear shocks to help steady the rider on rough terrain. The “10-speed” bicycles of years past have evolved into a sophisticated ultra-light “road bike” that is used primarily by the serious long distance adult bicyclists. These machines feature very narrow tires that are more susceptible to flats and blowouts from debris on the roadway.
- Who rides bicycles? While the majority of Americans (and Fremont residents) own bicycles, most of these people are recreational riders who ride relatively infrequently. School children between the ages of about 6 and 14 typically make up a large percentage of the bicycle riders today, often riding to school, parks, or other local destinations on a daily basis, weather permitting. The serious adult road bicyclist who may compete in races, “centuries” (100 mile tours) and/or ride for exercise makes up a small, but important, segment of bikeway users, along with serious off-road mountain bicyclists, who enjoy riding on trails and dirt roads. Other bicyclists include lower-income people for whom the bicycle is their only transportation option, and are riding by necessity to work or for shopping. The single biggest adult group of bicyclists is the intermittent recreational rider who generally prefers to ride on pathways or quiet side streets.

4.5.1. Recreational Bicyclist Needs

The term “recreational” cyclist covers a broad range of skill and fitness levels. Recreational cyclists in Fremont can range from a “roadie” who joins 50 mile group rides on weekends, to a family with young children who occasionally want to ride a couple miles down a quiet bike path, and all levels in between. A cyclist’s level of skill, fitness, and comfort on the road will determine what type of facility they are looking for. The needs of recreational bicyclists must be understood prior to developing a system or set of improvements. While it is not possible to serve every neighborhood and every need, a good plan will integrate recreational needs to the extent possible. The following points summarize recreational needs:

- Recreational users cover all age groups from children to adults to senior citizens. Each group has its own abilities, interests, and needs.
- Directness of route is typically less important than routes with less traffic conflicts, visual interest, shade, and protection from wind, moderate gradients, or other features.
- People exercising or touring often (though not always) prefer a loop route rather than having to backtrack.

In order to characterize the differences in recreational cyclists, this study breaks this category into two subcategories: “Road Cyclists” and “Casual Cyclists,” acknowledging that these are generalizations and that the average cyclist may have attributes of both user groups.

Road Cyclists

Road cyclists are those who will bike almost exclusively on street, because roadways are the type of facility that accommodates their desire for higher speeds, longer distances, and few conflicts with other recreational users. Typical trip distances for the road cyclist can range from 10 miles to over 50 miles. While the average road cyclist would likely prefer to ride on roads with little or no traffic, they are generally comfortable riding in traffic if necessary. To this end, a road cyclist will tend to ride in a manner similar to a motor vehicle (e.g. when approaching traffic signals or making left turns). Road cyclists are typically not seeking a recreational destination along the route, as the ride itself is the recreation. In fact, special cycling clothing and shoes and the lack of a bicycle lock, tends to limit the ability of the road cyclist to park and walk around off the bike.

Due to the relatively narrow width and thin casing of standard road bike tires, road cyclists are often susceptible to flat tires. As such, road cyclists are very concerned about glass, rocks, and other debris on the road or in the shoulder. In addition, loose material on the road such as sand or gravel can cause skinny road tires to lose traction and wash out on curves. Since most road debris tends to end up in the shoulder, road cyclists will tend to merge into the travel lane if any debris is present in the shoulder that might cause a flat tire or other hazard. This can sometimes lead to conflicts with motor vehicles, as many motorists don’t understand why a cyclist is riding in the lane if there is a seemingly good shoulder available.

Although very dependent on the fitness level of the rider, topography is less of a limiting factor for road cyclists; in fact, many road cyclists seek out routes that involve challenging and scenic terrain, which is often hilly. In Fremont, these may include rides up Niles Canyon Road to Palomares Road, Morrison Canyon Road, or across the Dumbarton Bridge bike path to destinations in the Santa Cruz Mountains.

Many of Fremont’s recreational road cyclists are members of the Fremont Freewheelers Bicycle Club, which sponsors a variety of recreational rides each month.

Casual Cyclists

Casual recreational cyclists are those who generally want to ride on off-street bike paths, are seeking a more relaxed cycling experience, and cover shorter trip distances at slower speeds. Casual cyclists will tend to do trips of less than 10 miles in length, and often ride more comfort-oriented bikes, hybrid or mountain bikes. Casual cyclists may ride as a family group, with children, and because they are more likely to ride with others of varying skill and fitness levels, flat topography is generally desired. Casual cyclists are typically not comfortable riding in traffic, and will avoid riding on busy streets when possible, riding on the sidewalk if necessary. Bike routes that extend through low-traffic residential streets are generally acceptable for casual cyclists, even if they are not the most direct route between destinations. Casual

cyclists may load their bikes in their cars and drive to a bike path, and are more likely in need of parking areas. Having recreational amenities and features along the route is more important to the casual cyclists, such as drinking fountains, shaded areas, picnic tables, interpretive signs, and scenic vistas. Recreational destinations are also important for casual cyclists, as they provide a place to stop and get off the bike and walk around. To this end, having secure bike parking at destinations is important.

Because of its relatively flat topography, Fremont offers many good opportunities for casual and family cyclists, and attractive recreational destinations including the Alameda Creek Trail and Coyote Hills Regional Park. Major barriers would include the major freeway crossings of I-680 and I-880, busy arterial roadways or highways, and major crossings or intersections that might intimidate casual cyclists who are not comfortable negotiating heavy traffic, merging, or lane changes, especially those who go on family rides with young children. Clearly signed bike routes that avoid busy streets and intersections are important to encourage casual cyclists.

4.5.2. Commuter Bicyclist Needs

As this plan for enhancing and developing bicycle facilities, and available state and federal bicycle funding is primarily focused on commuting cyclists – those riding to work or school, or for shopping, errands, and other utilitarian trips – it is important to understand the specific needs of bicycle commuters.

Commuter bicyclists in Fremont include employees who ride to work, children who ride to school, and people riding to destinations such as downtown businesses or neighborhood parks. Millions of dollars have been spent throughout the United States attempting to increase the number of people who ride to work or school, with moderate success. Bicycling requires shorter commutes, which runs counter to many of our nation's past land use and transportation policies, which effectively encouraged people to live further, and further from where they work. Access to transit helps extend the commute range of cyclists, but transit systems also face an increasingly dispersed live-work pattern that is difficult to serve. Despite these facts, Fremont has the potential to increase the number of people who ride to work or school because of (a) concentrated local employment, (b) a relatively flat topography, (c) a moderate climate, and (d) a high percentage of work commute trips (20%) that are less than 15 minutes in length.

For example, bicycle commuters in the City of Davis have reduced peak hour traffic volumes by over 15 percent -- to the point that many downtown streets that would normally be four lanes of traffic (with no bike lanes) have only two traffic lanes and ample room for bicyclists. While Davis may be an anomaly, national surveys have indicated that about 20 percent of the adult population would use a bicycle to ride to work at least occasionally if there were a properly designed bikeway system.

Commuter and student destinations in Fremont residents include major employers such as LAM Research Group, the numerous high-tech office and industrial parks located in the city, colleges such as Ohlone College, the Fremont BART station and Amtrak/ACE station, and elementary, junior high and high schools. Targeting bikeway improvements to commuters is important because most roadway

congestion and a significant portion of air contaminants occur during the AM and PM periods. Enhancing the safety and aesthetic attractiveness of Fremont bikeways will help to encourage even more residents to commute on bicycles.

Key commuter needs are summarized below.

- Commuter walking or bicycling typically falls into one of two categories: (1) adult employees, and (2) younger students.
- Adult employee commuters may be further broken down into “by choice” and “by necessity.” “By Choice” commuters may own motor vehicles, but choose to bicycle to work for a variety of reasons such as avoiding traffic, health and exercise, or environmental reasons. “By Necessity” commuters are typically lower income residents who may not own a motor vehicle at all (or even have a drivers license), and use the bicycle as their primary transportation mode.
- Commuter trips range from several blocks to one or more miles.
- Commuters typically seek the most direct and fastest route available. Many experienced “By Choice” adult commuters are comfortable riding on-street, often preferring to ride on arterials rather than side streets. “By Necessity” commuters are often less experienced cyclists who are not aware of the rules of the road and are more likely to ride on the sidewalk or ride in the wrong direction on-street.
- Unprotected intersection (no traffic control device such as a signal or stop sign) crossing locations are major concerns of all bicycle commuters.
- Commute periods typically coincide with peak traffic volumes and congestion, increasing the exposure to potential conflicts with vehicles.
- Places to securely store bicycles are of paramount importance to all bicycle commuters.
- Major commuter concerns include changes in weather (e.g. rain), riding in darkness, personal safety and security.
- Many younger students use sidewalks for riding to schools or parks, which is acceptable in areas where pedestrian volumes are low and driveway visibility is high, and the cyclists speed is relatively low. Where on street parking and/or landscaping obscures visibility, sidewalk riders may be exposed to a higher incidence of accidents. Older students who consistently ride at speeds over 10 mph should be directed to riding on street wherever possible.
- Cyclists riding the wrong-way on-street appear to be fairly common in Fremont (based on field observations), and accounted for over 1/3 of the recorded accidents from 2000-2003, pointing to the need for education programs for both children and adults.

Commuters and students follow similar paths, which is typically the most direct possible route from origin to destination. For grammar school students, this may

consist of residential or collector streets, with few crossings of major arterials. For junior high and high school students, riders may have to cross up to five or six arterials to reach school. For college students and adult commuters, trips are most often under five miles but may be as long as 10 or 15 miles.

Unfortunately, commuters and students need to travel during periods of peak traffic activity, and to destinations that may have high levels of congestion and traffic volumes/speeds. For example, one of the most dangerous parts of a young student's commute is the drop-off zone in front of their school where dozens of vehicles jockey for position.

Once they have arrived at their destinations, bicycle commuters often find no (or poor) bicycle racks, and no showers or lockers. Rather than providing an incentive for bicyclists, most schools and employers inadvertently discourage bicyclists while continuing to subsidize parking for the automobile.

In terms of developing an overall bikeway network, improvements that benefit commuting bicyclists include bike lanes or wider curb lanes along arterials and collectors, loop detectors at signalized intersections, new signals where school children need to cross busy arterials, adequate maintenance of the pavement, and adequate bicycle storage and showers at their destinations. Beyond the network development and "Engineering" aspects of the plan, commuter bicyclists can benefit greatly from the other 3 E's: Educational programs that emphasize bicycling street skills and safe traffic behavior (for both bicyclists and motorists), Enforcement of both motorist and bicyclist traffic violations, and Encouragement efforts and campaigns such as Bike to Work day or employer-based bike commute incentives.

Most commute bicycle trips are under five miles, except for those commuters linking to another mode such as bus transit, BART, Amtrak, or ACE. Allowing bicycles on other modes such as rail or bus, or providing bicycle lockers at multi-modal stations help extend the range of the bicycle commuter. Other bicycle commuters will depend on a well-devised local bikeway network produced by a city in its bicycle plan.

4.6. PUBLIC OUTREACH

Public outreach is an important component of the Fremont Bicycle Master Plan process. The public outreach process for this project included variety of mechanisms to obtain public input, including an Advisory Committee, a survey, and a series of public workshops.

4.6.1. Advisory Committee

An Advisory Committee comprised of City of Fremont Staff, key BPTAC members, and project consultants was convened to discuss key plan elements and review interim work products. Advisory Committee meetings were held on an as-needed basis over the course of the Bicycle Master Plan process.

4.6.2. Survey

A survey form was prepared in order to gather information from Fremont residents on current bicycling behavior, any problem areas they have identified, and any improvements in the bikeway system they would like to see. The survey was distributed at the first public meeting, was posted to the City's Bicycle and Pedestrian Program webpage, and notice of its availability was made to local cycling groups including the Fremont Freewheelers and the East Bay Bicycle Coalition. Survey responses were taken during the months of October and November 2004. A copy of the survey form and summary of the responses received are included in Appendix B of this plan.

4.6.3. Public Workshops

The Bicycle Master Plan process included a series of public workshops to receive community input. The first public workshop was held on October 20, 2004. This meeting was intended to introduce residents to the Master Plan process and schedule, and to gather input on existing bicycling conditions in Fremont. The second public workshop was held on April 13, 2005, and focused on a presentation of the Draft Bicycle Master Plan and recommended Bikeway network. Additional opportunities for public comment will be available following release of the Draft Final Bicycle Master Plan when the Plan is considered by the Bicycle Advisory Commission, Planning Commission and finally by the City Council for adoption. Meeting notices and summaries from the workshops are provided in Appendix C to this plan.